

Access For All – Local Access Fund Administrator

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Application Deadline.** I can provide all the LAFA application documents by the May 1, 2021 deadline. However, I cannot get on my Board's schedule to finalize the required Board resolution until after May 1st. Can I still apply?
 - a. Yes. The revised application packet due dates are as follows:
 - June 8, 2021 – New deadline for LAFA submittal of their Board Resolution
 - May 1, 2021 – (no change). Deadline for LAFA submittal of:
 - i. Certification of Program Requirements
 - ii. Notarized Affidavit
 - iii. Payee Data Record
2. **Existing Contracts with Access Providers.** We have an existing contract with an on-demand provider of WAV services. Can we use Access for All Funds to fund that program?
 - a. No. SB 1376 requires competitive selection of Access Providers. They would compete as others would, and if successful, and they have preexisting contract, the funds could be added to that contract. Further, the Access for All Program Overview and Requirements require Access Providers' compliance with certain rules, such as reporting requirements. A LAFA who would like to continue an existing program with an otherwise eligible Access Provider (e.g. that it meets the definition of "on demand" services defined in the Track 3 Decision [D.21-03-005](#)) must provide documentation to demonstrate competitive selection of that Provider in its Annual Reporting Requirement. The LAFA would also have to ensure, through modifications to its existing contract with the Access Provider or otherwise, that the Access Provider is bound by these Program Requirements.
3. **Multi-year Contracts.** Can we issue an RFP for multiple years or the duration of the program, instead of an annual call for projects?
 - a. The Program allocates funding annually. However, LAFAs who wish to issue a multi-year RFP/contract may do so if non-Access funding sources are used for future years.
4. **Signatures.** Must the agency Director sign the Board Resolution in addition to the Board Chair?
 - a. No. The Board Chair must sign. The Director's signature is optional.
5. **Statewide Fund Administrator.** What happens to the available Access Funds for my county if we elect not to participate as a Local Access Fund Administrator for this funding cycle?
 - a. The Statewide Fund Administrator will serve in counties where there are no LAFAs. The Statewide Fund Administrator part of the program has not yet been implemented; however, CPUC anticipates selecting a Statewide Fund Administrator by the end of the year. Consistent with LAFAs' timeline, the Statewide Administrator will solicit, review, and select Access Providers by July 1 each year. Therefore, if a county chooses not to serve as the LAFA this year, consistent with the Track 2 Decision D.20-03-007, CPUC will allocate that county's available funds to the Statewide Administrator, which is then

responsible for obligating those funds to Access Provider(s) serving that county in 2022. Any remaining funds will be carried over to the next funding cycle.

6. **Unused Funds.** What happens with any Access Fees collected by TNCs operating in my county if no Local Access Fund Administrator is selected and/or the Statewide Access Fund Administrator has not yet started implementation?
 - a. Please see the answer to question 5.
7. **Unused Funds.** What happens with any funds unobligated by LAFAs to Access Providers by the July 1st deadline?
 - a. Please see pp 19-20 of the Program Overview and Requirements, “Return and Report of Unused Funds.” Any unobligated funds must be carried over for obligation in the next funding cycle. If the Commission sees a pattern of non-compliance with the Program Requirements, it may elect not to renew the LAFA’s award in the following year.
8. **Unused Funds.** What happens with any funds obligated to but unused by Access Providers?
 - a. Please see pp 19-20 of the Program Overview and Requirements: “Return and Report of Unused Funds.”
9. **Fares.** Can the funds be used to subsidize fares for WAV trips?
 - a. A qualifying expense for an Access Provider is a reasonable, legitimate cost that improves WAV service, and appears on the list of eligible expenses attached as Appendix A to [D.20-03-007](#). Access funds are allowed to subsidize fares for WAV trips under the “Marketplace Costs” section of Appendix A (under “Other” category). Access Providers will be required to specify “Fare Subsidies” on the line item.
10. **Eligible Access Provider.** Who is eligible as Access Providers?
 - a. On an interim basis, a qualifying Access Provider shall be limited to a transportation carrier that holds a Commission-issued permit. You can access the list of permitted/eligible carriers [here](#).
 - b. The Commission may consider expansion of eligible Access Providers in [Track 4](#). In the event the Commission expands the eligible pool of Access Providers, the LAFA may adjust their program requirements and solicitation accordingly, provided the change does not introduce a competitive advantage or disadvantage to eligible Access Providers and must provide a clear and reasonable notification to all eligible Access Providers of the change.